

**PATENT**

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants/ Inventors:	Hobbs	Docket No.:	12207.0900
Serial No.:	Not Yet Assigned	Examiner:	Not Yet Assigned
Filing Date:	Herewith	Group Art Unit:	Not Yet Assigned
Title:	HYDROGEN HANDLING OR DISPENSING SYSTEM		

**PETITION FOR ADVANCEMENT OF EXAMINATION PURSUANT TO  
37 C.F.R. §1.102(c)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Commissioner:

Applicants hereby petition to advance prosecution of this application pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.102(c). Applicants note that no fee is required for this Petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.102(c), however, Applicants hereby authorize charge of deposit Account No. 19-2814 for any fees which may be required for this Petition .

37 C.F.R. §1.102(a) states that an application may be advanced for examination if, in the opinion of the Commissioner, the Applicant has made a showing which justifies advancement under 37 C.F.R. §1.102(c). In this regard, 37 C.F.R. §1.102(c) allows advancement of an application in view of an applicant's age or health, or if the invention will materially enhance the quality of the environment or materially contribute to the development or conservation of energy resources.

It is thus clear that where important public policy issues are involved, it is appropriate to advance examination of applications for inventions which materially contribute to the public welfare.

The instant application includes systems for handling and/or dispensing hydrogen or a mixture of fuels containing hydrogen gas including refueling stations for hydrogen-powered vehicles. Hydrogen powered vehicles, including fuel cell vehicles and combustion engine vehicles that burn a fuel containing diatomic hydrogen have the potential to significantly enhance the quality of the environment by substantially reducing the amount of pollution emitted by vehicles. They also have the potential to conserve energy by reducing the quantity of fossil fuels required to fuel motor vehicles. In order for hydrogen powered vehicles to be used, systems for handling and dispensing hydrogen are required that in, for example, urban settings, will quickly, conveniently, and safely handle and dispense hydrogen. Applicants submit that such benefits to the environment and to conservation of energy fall directly within the last two clauses of 37 C.F.R. §1.102(c).

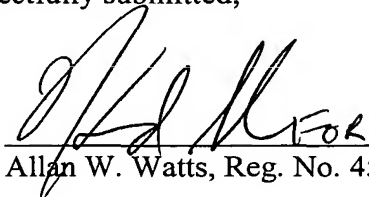
Further still, early examination and allowance of the instant application will likely facilitate the introduction of such technology in the United States on a widespread basis.

Accordingly, Applicants earnestly solicit advancement of examination of the instant application.

The undersigned would welcome a telephone call from the Petition's Examiner to discuss the merits of the invention if that would be helpful in ruling on this Petition.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 7/3/03

By:   
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